

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EA-09 ISO-00 SIG-02 AID-05 CIAE-00
COME-00 EB-08 FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 TRSE-00
XMB-04 OPIC-06 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05
SS-15 STR-04 CEA-01 PA-02 PRS-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00
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EA/NSILVER

-----021909Z 037906 /45

O 021804Z APR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY OSLO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

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PARIS PASS TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN

E.O. 11652:N/A

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TAGS:ECON, EFIN, PINT, PO

SUBJECT:NY TIMES ON MULTILATERAL BOP AID FOR PORTUGAL

REF; STATE 72280

1. NY TIMES APRIL 2 CARRIES ARTICLE PAGE 2 BY GRAHAM HOVEY

HEADLINED QUOTE CARTER URGES OTHER NATIONS TO JOIN EFFORT TO ASSIST PORTUGAL. UNQUOTE. TEXT FOLLOWS. QUOTE:

2. PRESIDENT CARTER HAS WRITTEN PERSONAL LETTERS TO THE LEADERS OF FOUR MAJOR INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES ASKING THEM TO JOIN THE UNITED STATES IN AN EFFORT TO HELP HARD-PRESSED PORTUGAL MEET ITS INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS.

3. THE PRESIDENT'S APPEAL WAS PART OF AN ADMINISTRATION DRIVE TO ESTABLISH AN INTERNATIONAL CONSORTIUM THAT WOULD PROVIDE PORTUGAL WITH DOLS 1.5 BILLION IN MEDIUM-TERM LOANS OVER THE NEXT THREE YEARS, THE SENATE BUDGET COMMITTEE WAS TOLD TODAY.

4. THOMAS DINE, DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS FOR THE COMMITTEE, DISCLOSED THE EXISTENCE OF THE PRESIDENTIAL LETTERS BUT DID NOT IDENTIFY THE POLITICAL LEADERS TO WHOM

THEY WERE SENT.

5. ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS LATER CONFIRMED THAT MR. CARTER HAD WRITTEN EARLY IN MARCH TO CHANCELLOR HELMUT SCHMIDT OF WEST GERMANY, PRESIDENT VALERY GISCARD D'ESTAING OF FRANCE AND PRIME MINISTERS JAMES CALLAGHAN OF BRITAIN AND TAKEO FUKUDA OF JAPAN.

6. MR. DINE, WHO WAS TESTIFYING ON AN OVERALL FEDERAL BUDGET RESOLUTION, TOLD THE COMMITTEE THAT IN ADDITION TO THE PRESIDENTIAL APPEALS, THE ADMINISTRATION HAD RECEIVED UNCLASSIFIED

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INFORMAL INDICATIONS THAT BELGIUM, CANADA, NORWAY AND VENEZUELA WOULD CONSIDER JOINING THE EFFORT TO AID PORTUGAL.

7. WEST GERMANY HAS INDICATED A WILLINGNESS TO HELP THE LISBON GOVERNMENT DIRECTLY BUT HAS INFORMED THE ADMINISTRATION THAT IT IS SKEPTICAL ABOUT THE WISDOM OF CREATING A CONSORTIUM, HE SAID.

8. MR. DINE ADDED THAT THE UNITED STATES EMBASSIES WOULD APPROACH OTHER GOVERNMENTS ABOUT PARTICIPATING WITHIN THE NEXT TWO WEEKS. THESE APPEALS, HE SAID, WOULD GO TO AUSTRIA, LUXEMBOURG, THE NETHERLANDS AND SWEDEN.

9. PORTUGAL, STRIVING TO ESTABLISH A DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM AFTER HALF A CENTURY OF AUTHORITARIAN RULE AND A STAGNATING ECONOMY, IS BATTLING AN ANNUAL INFLATION RATE OF 30 PERCENT AND FACING A BALANCE OF PAYMENTS DEFICIT OF ABOUT DOLS 1.2 BILLION. ITS FOREIGN CURRENCY HOLDINGS ARE NEARLY DEPLETED.

10. THE SOCIALIST MINORITY GOVERNMENT OF PRIME MINISTER
MARIO SOARES HAS ALSO HAD TO COPE WITH THE TASK OF
ABSORBING MORE THAN HALF A MILLION REFUGEES FROM PORTUGAL'S
FORMER TERRITORIES IN AFRICA, WHICH ARE NOW INDEPENDENT
UNDER BLACK RULE. UNQUOTE.
CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Litigation History:
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TAGS: ECON, EFIN, PINT, PO, XG, US
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